

Amendments to the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A heat pipe, comprising:
a pipe member having two opposing open ends;
a lid closely covered on one open end;
a base having an interlocking member to fitly engaged to the pipe member at the other open end thereof, and a flange extending radially and outwardly from the interlocking member, wherein a thickness of the flange is not larger than a thickness of the pipe member at the open end receiving the interlocking member; and
a wick structure attached on an inner wall of the pipe member and an inside surface of the base,
wherein the flange is made by forming an annular recess along a periphery of the base.
2. (Original) The heat pipe as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the pipe member is a cylindrical pipe.
3. (Original) The heat pipe as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the lid includes a filling tube mounted thereon for working fluid to be filled in the pipe member.
4. (Original) The heat pipe as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the pipe member is sealed with a sealing structure on the filling tube.
5. (Original) The heat pipe as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the base includes a flat surface opposite to the inside surface for contact with a heat source.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently Amended) The heat pipe as claimed in Claim ~~[[6]]~~ 1, wherein the base further includes a heat conducting portion formed under the annular recess.
8. (Original) The heat pipe as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the heat conducting portion is extended to enlarge a contact area of an outside surface opposite to the inside surface for contact with a heat source.
9. (Original) The heat pipe as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the flange has a periphery larger than an internal periphery of the pipe member at the open end receiving the interlocking member.
10. (Original) The heat pipe as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the flange has the periphery no larger than an external periphery of the pipe member at the open end receiving the interlocking member.